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WOMEN'S HEALTH OFFICE ACT OF 2001

(Mrs. MORELLA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, this week all around the country Americans are preparing for a time-honored tradition. This tradition is as apple pie as America; it is what we have come to know as Mother's Day.

Mother's Day is not just a day when we honor mothers, we also honor our wives who are mothers, as well as our sisters, our aunts. It is indeed a day that honors women.

Mr. Speaker, I too would like to honor women through our Mother's Day tradition. I would like to raise awareness and promote the health of American women, an important issue.

As my colleagues may know, for years the National Institutes of Health, our Nation's premier medical research institute, ignored, maybe inadvertently, the health concerns of women; and in 1989 we had a report issued by the General Accounting Office that reflected that. A year later, in 1990, we established the Office of Research on Women's Health. Since that time, we have made great strides in women's health research, but we still must be vigilant and must address the issues that are not receiving the public attention and research priority that they deserve.

That is why today I have introduced legislation that can serve as the catalyst to advance women's health. It is called the Women's Health Office Act of 2001. It will provide for permanent authorization of offices of women's health in five Federal agencies: Health and Human Services, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Agency for Health Care Research and Quality, Health Resources and Services Administration, and the Food and Drug Administration.

The bill has 28 original cosponsors from both sides of the aisle. I hope that all will join in sponsoring this important legislation.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MICA). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

ENVIRONMENTAL EXTREMISM
THREATENS U.S. ECONOMY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. MORELLA). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DUNCAN. Madam Speaker, yesterday, I read one news item and heard another, both of which caused me great concern. One was the headline in the Knoxville News-Sentinel which said, "Tennessee Economic Outlook Grim."

Now, Tennessee has become one of the most popular places to move to in the whole country. Also, our economy is very diversified and not overly dependent on two or three big-ticket items and, thus, not as subject to the boom-and-bust cycle seen in some other places. So if Tennessee's economic outlook is grim, it causes me great concern about the economy in the Nation as a whole.

The second item was a report on a national news cast that said Dell Computer and some other leading companies were withdrawing job offers previously made to people about to graduate from college. The report said that Dell was announcing additional layoffs which will soon total about 6,000, or 10 percent of their workforce, in addition to the withdrawn job offers.

Over the years, I have had many parents and grandparents bring their children or grandchildren who have graduated from college to me for help in getting jobs. For the most part, they are good-looking young people and have made very good grades, but who are unable to find jobs. Many young people are going to graduate schools today because they cannot find good jobs with just a bachelor's degree, as in the past. Also, many young people are majoring in subjects in which there are almost no jobs. Colleges and universities cannot discourage people from majoring in some subject where the job prospects are poor because they would make the professors of those subjects very angry. But it is really sad when someone spends years in college and cannot find a job.

Also, some universities are encouraging students to incur huge student loans which they cannot then repay. I remember last year reading in the Washington Times about the glut of Ph.D.s. The story told of one man who had gotten a doctorate in English and had sent out almost 400 resumes and got only one job offer for a job he really did not want.

There are far too many lawyers. We always read about what the top graduates from the top schools are getting. The reality is that many law school graduates cannot find jobs or end up making less than they would if they managed a McDonald's or drove a truck.

I was visited recently by members of the Tennessee Hospital Association. Their main problem is a severe shortage of nurses. Nursing is a great profession to go into at this time. But I strongly encourage all young people to check out the job prospects before they spend a small fortune and years of their lives getting a degree or even degrees that are almost meaningless.

The main thing, though, that is going to cause our economy real trouble if we do not wake up is the energy crisis. We have wealthy environmental extremists all over this country that protest anytime anyone wants to drill for any oil, dig for any coal, produce any natural gas or cut any trees. Bill Bryson, in his book "A Walk in the Woods" about hiking the Appalachian Trail, mentions that New England was once only 40 percent in forest land, while today it is almost 70 percent covered by forests. My own State of Tennessee is half in forests now, 50 percent, compared to only 36 percent in 1950.

The amount of forest land has gone way up in the last 50 years; yet the children in our schools have been so brainwashed in recent years by extreme left-wing environmentalists. I am sure almost none of them would answer correctly if asked if the forest land had gone up over the last half century. The Sierra Club and some other environmental groups have gone so far to the left in recent years they are making socialists look conservative.

Some wonder why gas is going toward \$3 a gallon, as many are predicting, and why utility bills are going way up. Well, it is primarily because rich, yuppie environmentalists are slowly but surely shutting this country down economically. They may not be hurt when gas and utility bills go way up, but millions of lower-income and middle-income people are. Jobs are destroyed and prices go up when we stop or delay for years the production of any energy or even many other forms of production in this country.

We have closed half of our oil refineries since 1980. We now have to import most of our oil. We are now cutting only one-seventh of the new growth in our national forests each year. Environmentalists pushed for it and won and passed a law in the mid-1980s saying we would only cut 80 percent of the new growth. But they always demand more, and they continually have to exaggerate the problems or their contributions will dry up.

East Tennessee had 157 small coal companies in the late 1970s. Now there are none due to environmental extremism. Former President Clinton locked up 213 trillion cubic feet of natural gas just before he left office. Now the mayor of the small town of Englewood, Tennessee, tells me he has senior citizens in his town who are having to choose between eating or paying their utility bills. One Illinois water district said its water bills would have to go up \$72 a month to achieve the unrealistic Clinton standards on arsenic levels; yet even at the present safe levels, people would have to drink water full-time for their entire lives to run even a minute, minuscule risk of cancer from the 50-parts-per-billion standard now in effect. All of the coal, oil, lumber, and natural gas companies we have shut

down or greatly restricted used to hire many college graduates and other workers.

When we drive up energy costs, we harm almost all companies and individuals. College graduates cannot find jobs at the very time prices for everything are going way up.

Madam Speaker, if we do not soon stop this extremism and bring some balance and moderation back into our environmental policies, many more college graduates will be unable to find jobs and millions of lower- and middle-income people will suffer greatly.

THE GEORGE MCGOVERN-ROBERT DOLE INTERNATIONAL FOOD FOR EDUCATION AND CHILD NUTRITION ACT OF 2001

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, last Thursday was a remarkable day. That morning, the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. EMERSON) and I joined a broad, bipartisan coalition of Members from the House and the Senate in introducing landmark legislation to end hunger among the world's children in our lifetimes.

In a time when rancor and bitterness often characterize business in the Congress, we have come together around a vision for the future, a future where every child receives at least one nutritious meal a day and that meal is served in a school setting.

I want to commend my colleagues who join the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. EMERSON) and me in introducing H.R. 1700: the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. HALL), the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. JOHNSON), the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR), the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. LEACH), the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Mrs. CLAYTON), the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. MANZULLO), the gentleman from Washington (Mr. NETHERCUTT), the gentleman from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE), the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. BOSWELL), the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GREEN), the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. BARRETT), and the gentlewoman from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN).

Our bill is called the George McGovern-Robert Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Act of 2001. It is named after two great men who, in their time together in the Senate, spear-headed bipartisan legislation to create our own school lunch, school breakfast and WIC programs here in the United States. Now they have called upon this Congress and this administration to duplicate those actions worldwide.

Our bill will provide long-term, reliable funding to purchase U.S. commodities in order to provide millions of

hungry children around the world with a school breakfast or a school lunch or both.

Madam Speaker, over 300 million of the world's children are hungry. About 130 million of these children do not go to school, and about 60 percent of those are girls.

Isolated programs around the world have demonstrated that more families send their children to school, including the girls, when a meal is provided. In fact, in many cases, enrollment doubles within 1 or 2 years. The children become more alert and capable of learning with a meal in their bellies; and test scores improve, attendance increases, more children graduate, and dropout rates decline.

For just 10 cents a day for each meal, we can feed a hungry child and help that child learn. With what we pay for a Big Mac, fries, and a soft drink, we could afford to feed two classrooms of kids in Ghana or Nepal. Hands down, education is the best way to improve people's lives. Education reduces disease rates, increases economic activity, reduces the birth rate, and strengthens communities; and the best way to get a child into school is to have a nutritious meal waiting for them.

These children will grow up to be the teachers, the more productive farmers, the bankers, the small business owners, and the leaders of their countries. They will also grow up to be the new consumers of American goods and services. In the meantime, our farmers, food processors, transportation industry, ports and maritime shipping benefit from the purchases and shipment of this food aid.

This program will succeed because its scale is large, its vision is long-term, and its approach is multilateral. It will succeed because this will not just be America going it alone. We call on every country that can step up to the plate to do just that. It will succeed because we will not take money away from existing food and development programs. We need those programs to address our other long-term development priorities.

So much is already in place to move ahead with this initiative. We already have successful partnerships with U.S. private and voluntary organizations to carry out the programs on the ground. We already have relationships with international food and education agencies such as the World Food Program and UNICEF to help us coordinate with other countries; and we already have a successful history with our farmers in providing food aid.

Quite frankly, we have the resources to eliminate hunger among the world's children and get them into school. We do not need to raise taxes; we do not need to cut any domestic programs. We just need to get to work. The only thing that could stand in our way is the lack of political will.

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By introducing H.R. 1700, we have shown the world that in this Congress of the United States that the political will could be mustered.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. EMERSON) and me in support of this bill. We can help end hunger in our lifetime.

Mr. Speaker, I include the following for the RECORD:

THE MCGOVERN-EMERSON BILL BUILDS UPON AND ENHANCES THE GLOBAL FOOD FOR EDUCATION INITIATIVE PILOT PROGRAM

On December 28, 2000, President Clinton formally announced the launching of a \$300 million pilot program authorizing 630,000 metric tons in commodity purchases to provide hungry children in developing countries at least one nutritious meal each day in a school setting. Inspired by a proposal put forward by Ambassador George McGovern and Senator Bob Dole, the Global Food for Education Initiative pilot program, administered through the U.S. Department of Agriculture, will reach approximately 9 million children through 49 projects in 38 countries.

Representatives Jim McGovern (D-MA) and Jo Ann Emerson (R-MO) are introducing legislation—the George McGovern-Robert Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Act of 2001—that builds upon and enhances the program initiated by the pilot program.

Makes the Global Food for Education Initiative a permanently-established program with funding consistent with the proposal put forward by Ambassador McGovern and Senator Dole: \$300 million beginning in fiscal year 2002 and increasing to \$750 million fiscal year 2004.

Adds a Global WIC program, as originally envisioned by Ambassador McGovern and Senator Dole, beginning with \$50 million in fiscal year 2002 and increasing to \$250 million by fiscal year 2004.

Ensures that any commodity that would enhance the effectiveness of school feeding programs may be designated by the Secretary of Agriculture as eligible for purchase (e.g. lentils, beans, etc.)

Provides for transportation of commodities to storage and distribution sites.

Provides for purchase of commodities in non-surplus years.

Allows the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) at the U.S. Department of Agriculture to provide technical assistance and advice to recipient countries and to other USDA departments on how to establish and carry out effective school feeding programs.

Allows for financial assistance to be made available to agencies and organizations for itemized administrative costs and to undertake activities that enhance the effectiveness of these programs (e.g., training of cooks, establishing and equipping school kitchens, holding community workshops to inform families that a school feeding program has begun and the benefits of such a program, etc.).

Allows for the monetization of commodities to ensure the effectiveness, longevity and self-sustainability of these programs (e.g. purchase of local foods to round out nutritional balance of meals, helping communities establish a pre-school or school feeding program, expanding facilities as successful programs attract and maintain more children as students, etc.)

Provides for interagency coordination and reimbursement to relevant federal agencies,